

What is claimed is:

1. An image recording apparatus comprising:

an image drafting means that drafts a line form image  
on a portion of a recording medium; and

5        a conveyance means that conveys said recording medium  
in a direction substantially perpendicular to the lengthwise  
direction of said drafted line form image; wherein said image  
is recorded two dimensionally on said recording medium by said  
conveyance means conveying said recording medium in said  
conveyance direction as said image drafting means drafts said  
line form image;

further comprising a detection means fixedly positioned  
in relation to said conveyed recording medium.

2. An image recording apparatus as defined in claim 1,  
wherein:

10        said image drafting means as well as said conveyance  
means are provided within a housing, and an opening is provided  
in said housing in the vicinity of the aforementioned  
conveyance means, extending in said conveyance direction.

20        3. An image recording apparatus as defined in claim 1,  
wherein:

      said image drafting means is a thermal head.

4. An image recording apparatus as defined in claim 2,  
wherein:

25        said image drafting means is a thermal head.

5. An image recording apparatus as defined in any one

of claims 1-4, wherein:

    said conveyance means is capable of varying the conveyance speed of said recording medium.

6. A method of shading correction that employs the image  
5 recording apparatus as defined in any one of claims 1-4,  
comprising the steps of:

    recording a density pattern for shading correction on  
a recording medium;

10     obtaining said recording medium on which said density  
pattern for shading correction has been recorded;

    conveying said recording medium having said density  
pattern recorded thereon in a direction that substantially  
matches the lengthwise direction of said density pattern;

15     detecting said density pattern by a detection means; and

    obtaining shading correction data based on the detection  
result of said detection means.

7. A method of shading correction that employs the image  
recording apparatus as defined in claim 5, comprising the steps  
of:

20     recording a density pattern for shading correction on  
a recording medium;

    obtaining said recording medium on which said density  
pattern for shading correction has been recorded;

25     conveying said recording medium having said density  
pattern recorded thereon in a direction that substantially  
matches the lengthwise direction of said density pattern at

a speed slower than the speed at which said density pattern was recorded;

detecting said density pattern by a detection means; and  
obtaining shading correction data based on the detection  
5 result of said detection means.

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